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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arno Kleinhaeni and Roman Mathieu
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 Examiner: N/A
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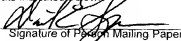
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner prior to examination thereof.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.


 Signature of Person Mailing Paper

1/11/02 David E. Spaw
 Date Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A security reversible-key with at least three coding/tumbler pin rows (A1, A2, A3) located on the flat sides of the key (S), with an assigned cylinder (Z) with pin rows of pairs of tumbler pins, said tumbler pin pairs consisting of tumbler pins and counter pins at the positions of the tumbler pin rows of a given bore pattern, wherein:

the key has a blocking groove BN that runs parallel to an axis (x) of the key from a tip of the key to at least a first position (P1) of a tumbler pin row on the key,

the blocking groove has a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3) that, in the assigned cylinder at least at a rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins corresponding to the blocking groove (BN) with a blocking tumbler pin (BZ) and an extended blocking counter pin (BG) are received,

so that the blocking counter pin impinges on the cylinder housing (10) if the blocking groove is not deep enough and complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove is blocked by the pair of blocking tumbler pins and whereby the blocking tumbler pin (BZ) together with the blocking counter pin (BG), following insertion of the key at the rearmost coding position (P1), is also utilized as a coding tumbler pin with coding steps (C1, C2, C3, C4) for turning of the cylinder.

2. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least four rows of tumbler pins (A1 - A4) are provided.

3. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least two different codings (Cod1, Cod2) are provided.

4. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein coding positions (Pi) from two different bore patterns (R, L) are provided.

5. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blocking groove, which runs to at least the first and rearmost coding positions (P1, P2) at the very front of a coding row (A2) and by blocking tumbler pins BZ1, BZ2 and blocking counter pins BG1,

BG2 corresponding to the coding positions, with coded step depths of these at least two positions at the very front.

6. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 5, wherein the blocking groove has at least two differently shaped sectors BN1, BN2.

7. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blocking groove extends over more than one coding position and whereby the depth (tb) of the blocking groove is constant or decreases from one coding position (P1) to the next coding position (P2).

8. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blocking groove extends over more than one coding position and whereby the width (bb) of the blocking groove remains constant or decreases from one position (P1) to the next position (P2).

9. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein at more than one row of tumbler pins (A1, A2), respectively, one blocking groove each with assigned pairs of blocking tumbler pins is provided.

10. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein, as an additional security element, a rising control face KF is disposed at the tip of the key, said control face KF pushes an assigned control pin KS out of the way, whereby the control pin KS prevents insertion of a key without a control face KF.

11. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 10, wherein the control pin KS is a flat pin (23), which also carries out a flank control at a narrow coding milling (Cod2).

12. (amended) The key in accordance with claim 1, wherein, in a row of tumbler pins (A2), the following security elements are located: blocking code (BC), second coding (Cod2), insertion blocking system by means of control face (KF) and control pin (KS) as well as flank control by means of a flat pin (23).

13. (amended) A locking system with security reversible keys for locking systems with at least three coding/tumbler pin rows (A1, A2, A3), which are also located on the flat sides of the keys (S), with assigned cylinders (Z) with pin rows of pairs of tumbler pins, consisting of tumbler pins and counter pins at the positions of a given bore pattern and with at least two additional safety elements, wherein at least two areas on the keys are defined such that, in a first area (G1), at least two additional security elements with a higher degree of manufacturing difficulty are provided and, in the second area (G2), a more simple basic coding (Cod1) is provided, and wherein, with the first area (G1) an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas (M1, M2, ...) is defined whereby the first area (G1) has, as an additional security element, a blocking code (BC), the keys have a blocking groove (BN) that runs parallel to an axis of the key (x) from a tip of the key to at least a first position (P1) of a tumbler pin row on the key, the blocking groove has a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3), in the assigned cylinder at least at the rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins with a blocking tumbler pin (BZ) and an extended blocking counter pin (BG) corresponding to the blocking groove (BN) are provided such that the blocking counter pin BG impinges on the cylinder housing (10) if the blocking groove is not deep enough to thereby block complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove by the pair of blocking tumbler pins, and whereby the blocking tumbler pin (BZ) with the blocking counter pin (BG) after insertion of the key at the rearmost coding position (P1) is also utilized as a coding tumbler pin with coding steps (C1, C2, C3, C4) for turning of the cylinder.

14. (amended) The locking system in accordance with claim 13, wherein, as security elements in the first area (G1), a second coding (Cod2), an insertion blocking comprising control faces (KF) on the key and assigned control pin (KS) in the cylinder, and a flank control comprising a flat tumbler pin (23) and a blocking code (BC) are provided.

15. (amended) The locking system in accordance with claim 13, wherein, the keys include areas having different bore patterns (R, L).

16. (amended) The locking system in accordance with claim 13, wherein at least three security elements are provided in the first area (G1).

17. (amended) The locking system in accordance with claim 13, wherein, as security elements, a second coding (Cod2) with a narrow milling is provided.

18. (amended) The locking system in accordance with claim 13, wherein all security elements of the first area (G1) are affixed in one coding row (A2).

19. (amended) A method for manufacturing keys and cylinders of a locking system with at least two areas (G1, G2) on the keys (S) in accordance with claim 13, wherein first the first area (G1) on the keys is manufactured in a central place of manufacture (H1), and that the coding (Cod1) of the keys of the second area G2 and the equipping of the cylinders with corresponding pins is subsequently manufactured at a remote location by local representative (H2).

20. (amended) The method in accordance with claim 19, wherein manufacturing takes place in at least two steps at different locations, whereby first variables with a higher degree of difficulty (HS) of the first area (G1) are manufactured at a central location and subsequently variables with a lower degree of difficulty of the second area (G2) are manufactured in a second decentralized location.

21. (amended) The method in accordance with claim 19, wherein manufacturing of the keys takes place in at least three steps, whereby first the first area (G1) with variables of the highest degree of difficulty is manufactured centrally (H1), thereupon a further area (G1/2) with variables with a lower degree of difficulty is manufactured regionally (H1/2) and finally the coding with the lowest degree of difficulty of the second area (G2) is manufactured locally at the place of application (H2).

22. (amended) The method in accordance with claim 19, wherein the manufacturing of the first area (G1) is also able to take place decentralized, whereby manufacturing programs and authorization for a desired operation are controlled and checked from a central location.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the original abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The security reversible key with an assigned cylinder (Z) has a blocking groove (BN) with a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3), which runs parallel to the axis of the key (x) from the tip of the key to at least the first position (P1) of a row of tumbler pins (A2) on the key. In the assigned cylinder, at least at the rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins corresponding to the blocking groove (BN) with a blocking tumbler pin (BZ) and an extended blocking counter pin (BG) are provided. The blocking counter pin (BG) impinges on the cylinder housing (10) if the blocking groove is insufficiently deep and, with this, complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove is blocked by the pair of blocking tumbler pins. Simultaneously, the blocking tumbler pin (BZ) with the counter pin (BG) at the position (P1) also serves as coding tumbler pin. In the case of the locking system with security reversible keys for locking installations at least two areas are defined. In a first area (G1) several additional security elements and a blocking code function are provided while, in the second area (G2), a more simple basic coding are foreseen. With the first area (G1), an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas (M1, M2, M3) is defined and, with this, a world-wide unique locking system with enhanced security and applicability is created.

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted to place the application in better compliance with U.S. formal practice. The Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any l fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. FRR-12782.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By: _____


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Attachment: Marked-up version of Amendments

Marked-up Version of Amendment

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (amended) ~~{Security}~~ A security reversible-key with at least three ~~{coding-/tumbler}~~ coding/tumbler pin rows (A1, A2, A3) ~~{, which are also}~~ located on the flat sides of the key (S), with an assigned cylinder (Z) with pin rows of pairs of tumbler pins, said tumbler pin pairs consisting of tumbler pins and counter pins at the positions of the tumbler pin rows of a given bore pattern, ~~{characterized in-}~~ wherein:

~~{that}~~ the key has a blocking groove BN ~~{, which}~~ that runs parallel to ~~{the key}~~ an axis (x) of the key from ~~{the}~~ a tip of the key to at least ~~{the}~~ a first position (P1) of a tumbler pin row on the key,

~~{that}~~ the blocking groove has a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3) ~~{,}~~ that, in the assigned cylinder at least at ~~{the}~~ a rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins corresponding to the blocking groove ~~{BN}~~ (BN) with a blocking tumbler pin ~~{BZ}~~ (BZ) and an extended blocking counter pin ~~{BG is foreseen}~~ (BG) are received.

so that the blocking counter pin impinges on the cylinder housing (10) if the blocking groove is not deep enough and ~~{with this the}~~ complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove is blocked by the pair of blocking tumbler pins and whereby the blocking tumbler pin ~~{BZ}~~ (BZ) together with the blocking counter pin ~~{BG}~~ (BG), following ~~{the}~~ insertion of the key at the rearmost coding position (P1), is also utilized as a coding tumbler pin with coding steps (C1, C2, C3, C4) ~~{with respect to the}~~ for turning of the cylinder.

2. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein at least four rows of tumbler pins (A1 - A4) are ~~{foreseen-}~~ provided.

3. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein at least two different codings (Cod1, Cod2) are ~~{foreseen-}~~ provided.

4. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein coding positions (Pi) from two different bore patterns (R, L) are ~~{foreseen}~~ provided.

5. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized by a}~~ wherein the blocking groove, which runs to at least the ~~{two}~~ first and rearmost coding positions (P1, P2) at the very front of a coding row (A2) and by blocking tumbler pins BZ1, BZ2 and blocking counter pins BG1, BG2 corresponding to ~~{these}~~ the coding positions, with coded step depths of these at least two positions at the very front.

6. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 5, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein the blocking groove has at least two differently shaped sectors BN1, BN2.

7. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein the blocking groove extends over more than one coding position and whereby the depth (tb) of the blocking groove ~~{remains the same}~~ is constant or decreases from one coding position (P1) to the next coding position (P2) ~~{or gets smaller}~~.

8. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein the blocking groove extends over more than one coding position and whereby the width (bb) of the blocking groove remains ~~{the same}~~ constant or decreases from one position (P1) to the next position (P2) ~~{or gets smaller}~~.

9. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein at more than one row of tumbler pins (A1, A2), respectively, one blocking groove each with assigned pairs of blocking tumbler pins is ~~{foreseen}~~ provided.

10. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein, as an additional security element ~~{at the tip of the key}~~, a rising control face KF is ~~{located, which}~~ disposed at the tip of the key, said control face KF pushes an assigned control pin KS out of the way, whereby the control pin KS prevents ~~{the}~~ insertion of a key without a control face KF.

11. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 10, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein the control pin KS is ~~{implemented as}~~ a flat pin (23), which ~~{additionally}~~ also carries out a flank control at a narrow coding milling (Cod2).

12. (amended) ~~{Key}~~ The key in accordance with claim 1, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein, in a row of tumbler pins (A2), the following security elements are located: ~~{Blocking}~~ blocking code (BC), second coding (Cod2), insertion blocking system by means of control face (KF) and control pin (KS) as well as flank control by means of a flat pin (23).

13. (amended) ~~{Locking}~~ A locking system with security reversible keys for locking systems with at least three ~~{coding—/tumbler}~~ coding/tumbler pin rows (A1, A2, A3), which are also located on the flat sides of the keys (S), with assigned cylinders (Z) with pin rows of pairs of tumbler pins, consisting of tumbler pins and counter pins at the positions of a given bore pattern and with at least two additional safety elements, ~~{characterized in that}~~ wherein at least two areas on the keys are defined~~[, whereby]~~ such that, in a first area ~~{G1}(G1)~~, at least two additional security elements with a higher degree of manufacturing difficulty are ~~{foreseen}~~ provided and, in the second area ~~{G2}(G2)~~, a more simple basic coding (Cod1) is ~~{foreseen}~~ provided, and ~~{whereby}~~ wherein, with the first area ~~{G1}(G1)~~ an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas (M1, M2, ...) is defined ~~{and}~~ whereby the first area ~~{G1}(G1)~~ has, as an additional security element ~~{has}~~, a blocking code (BC), ~~{i.e.}~~ the keys have a blocking groove ~~{BN, which}(BN)~~ that runs parallel to ~~{the}~~ an axis of the key (x) from ~~{the}~~ a tip of the key to at least ~~{the}~~ a first position (P1) of a tumbler pin row on the key, the blocking groove has a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3), in the assigned cylinder at least at the rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins with a blocking tumbler pin ~~{BZ}(BZ)~~ and an extended blocking counter pin ~~{BG}(BG)~~ corresponding to the blocking groove ~~{BN}(BN)~~ are ~~{foreseen, so}~~ provided such that the blocking counter pin BG impinges on the cylinder housing (10)~~[,]~~ if the blocking groove is not deep enough ~~{and therefore the}~~ to thereby block complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove ~~{is blocked}~~ by the pair of blocking tumbler pins, and whereby the blocking tumbler pin ~~{BZ}(BZ)~~ with the blocking counter pin ~~{BG}(BG)~~ after

~~the~~ insertion of the key at the rearmost coding position (P1) is also utilized as a coding tumbler pin with coding steps (C1, C2, C3, C4) ~~with respect to the~~ for turning of the cylinder.

14. (amended) ~~Locking~~ The locking system in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, as security elements in the first area ~~G1~~(G1), a second coding (Cod2), an insertion blocking ~~by means of~~ comprising control faces (KF) on the key and assigned control pin (KS) in the cylinder, and a flank control ~~by means of~~ comprising a flat tumbler pin (23) and a blocking code (BC) are ~~foreseen~~ provided.

15. (amended) ~~Locking~~ The locking system in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that on~~ wherein, the keys ~~in~~ include areas having different bore patterns (R, L) ~~are foreseen~~.

16. (amended) ~~Locking~~ The locking system in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least three security elements are ~~foreseen~~ provided in the first area ~~G1~~(G1).

17. (amended) ~~Locking~~ The locking system in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, as security elements, a second coding (Cod2) with a narrow milling is ~~foreseen~~ provided.

18. (amended) ~~Locking~~ The locking system in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein all security elements of the first area ~~G1~~(G1) are affixed in one coding row (A2).

19. (amended) ~~Method~~ A method for ~~the~~ manufacturing ~~of~~ keys and cylinders of a locking system with at least two areas (G1, G2) on the keys (S) in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein first the first area ~~G1~~(G1) on the keys is manufactured, ~~resp. controlled and authorized~~ in a central place of manufacture (H1), and that the coding (Cod1) of the keys of the second area G2 and the equipping of the cylinders

with corresponding pins ~~is~~ subsequently ~~his able to take place decentralized at a~~
~~manufactured at a remote location by~~ local representative (H2).

20. (amended) ~~[Method]~~ The method in accordance with claim 19, ~~characterized~~
~~in that the~~ wherein manufacturing takes place in at least two steps~~, resp.,~~ at different
 locations, whereby first variables ~~[N0]~~ with a higher degree of difficulty (HS) of the first area
~~[GH](G1)~~ are manufactured at a central location and subsequently variables with a lower
 degree of difficulty of the second area ~~G2~~ are manufactured in a second decentralized
~~for-locally~~ location.

21. (amended) ~~[Method]~~ The method in accordance with claim 19, ~~characterized~~
~~in that the~~ wherein manufacturing of the keys takes place in at least three steps, whereby first
 the first area ~~[GH](G1)~~ with variables ~~[N0]~~ of the highest degree of difficulty is manufactured
 centrally (H1), thereupon a further area (G1/2) with variables with a lower degree of difficulty
 is manufactured regionally (H1/2) and finally the coding with the lowest degree of difficulty
 of the second area ~~G2~~ is manufactured locally at the place of application (H2).

22. (amended) ~~[Method]~~ The method in accordance with claim 19, ~~characterized in~~
~~that~~ wherein the manufacturing of the first area ~~[GH](G1)~~ is also able to take place decentralized,
 whereby ~~[the]~~ manufacturing ~~[programmes]~~ programs and ~~[the]~~ authorization ~~[(aut) for this]~~ for a
desired operation are controlled and checked from a central location ~~[SS-(system-owner)]~~.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The security reversible key with an assigned cylinder ~~Z~~ has a blocking groove ~~BN~~
 with a coded blocking depth (B1, B2, B3), which runs parallel to the axis of the key (x) from

the tip of the key to at least the first position (P1) of a row of tumbler pins (A2) on the key. In the assigned cylinder, at least at the rearmost coding position (P1), a pair of tumbler pins corresponding to the blocking groove {BN}(BN) with a blocking tumbler pin {BZ}(BZ) and an extended blocking counter pin {BG} are foreseen, whereby the {BG} are provided. The blocking counter pin {BG}(BG) impinges on the cylinder housing (10) if the blocking groove is insufficiently deep and, with this {the}, complete insertion of a key with an insufficiently deep blocking groove is blocked by the pair of blocking tumbler pins. Simultaneously, the blocking tumbler pin {BZ}(BZ) with the counter pin {BG}(BG) at the position (P1) also serves as coding tumbler pin. In the case of the locking system with security reversible keys for locking installations at least two areas are defined, whereby in:

In a first area {G1}(G1) several additional security elements and a blocking code function {and} are provided while, in the second area {G2}(G2), a more simple basic coding are foreseen. With the first area {G1}(G1), an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas (M1, M2, M3) is defined and, with this, a world-wide unique locking system with enhanced security and applicability is created.

{{Figure-2}}



SECURITY REVERSIBLE KEY AND LOCKING SYSTEM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The invention concerns a security reversible key with an assigned cylinder [in accordance with the generic term of claim 1], a locking system with security reversible keys for locking systems [in accordance with the generic term of claim 13], and a method for their manufacture [in accordance with the generic term of claim 19]. Such keys and locking systems are known, where the keys with a high degree of security and a correspondingly high number of possible coding permutations [of necessity]. The keys have at least three [in preference], and preferably at least four coding [in respect] tumbler pin rows [which are also]. The tumbler row pins are located on the flat sides of the key [in order to make the best possible use of the available space, i.e., the given] key surface, as well as the corresponding space requirement for the tumbler pin rows in the cylinder. [Known are also keys] Keys with additional security elements are also known, which once again require a certain amount of space.

[0002] From [US 5,438,857] U.S. Patent No. 5,438,857, such a key is known, with an insertion blocking system as an additional security element. [Here] In the '857 key an additional control face is located on the key [which] that, by means of an assigned control pin at the cylinder entrance, prevents the insertion of a wrong key. This control pin is longer than a coding pin and extends beyond the central bisecting plane of the key. The control face is arranged at the tip of the key and rising, and it correspondingly also extends beyond the central bisecting plane of the key and lifts the control pin and [with this] pushes [it] the control pin out of the way. [This control pin as] As a result of this, the control pin prevents the insertion of keys without a correct control face. [These] The control faces can already be affixed to the key blank and with this enable a protection of the blank.

[0003] These known high-security keys and systems with high-security keys are also always limited by the space available for the coding and security functions on the key and in the cylinder. Their manufacture calls for a central production, which limits, renders more difficult, and delays the world-wide universal application of such systems. Also, an optimum design for installations and applications of any kind is severely restricted by this.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] It is ~~now the~~ an objective of the present invention ~~[presented here]~~ to create a security reversible key with an assigned cylinder~~[, resp.]~~. More specifically, it is an objective of the invention to provide a locking system with security reversible keys and assigned cylinders, which can be utilized as a world-wide unique locking system, with higher permutation capacities for any kind of application, with enhanced security and copy protection as well as with new possibilities of being in a position to separate any kind of market area and application world-wide, and whereby, without any additional space requirement on keys and cylinders, a higher security and a greater number of permutations is achieved. ~~[Sought as a]~~ A further objective of the present invention is a manufacturing method for a system of this kind, which can rapidly and universally be brought into use and applied world-wide.

[0005] ~~[This objective is achieved in]~~ In accordance with the present invention ~~[by]~~, a security reversible key ~~[with]~~ has an assigned cylinder ~~[in accordance with claim 1, by]~~, a locking system ~~[with]~~ has security reversible keys with assigned cylinders ~~[in accordance with claim 13, as well as by a method for the manufacture of such keys]~~, and a method is provided to manufacture such keys, in accordance with claim 19. With the new additional security element ~~[blocking code,]~~ "blocking code", which comprises a coded blocking groove

and an assigned pair of blocking tumbler pins, without any additional space requirement on the key and in the cylinder, i.e., with the existing coding positions on the key and the existing pin rows and ~~{-}~~positions in the cylinder, an additional insertion blocking system as well as a higher number of permutations and applications are achieved. With the division into areas on the key, whereby the first area with additional security elements defines an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas, a system is created~~{, which}~~ that corresponds to the above named objective and which can be realized with the new, multi-step manufacturing process.

[0006] ~~{The dependent claims concern advantageous further developments of the invention, which make possible further advantages with respect to universal usability, the ability of being rapidly manufactured world-wide, security of a locking system, security against copying, number of permutations and applications.~~

[0007] ~~}~~Especially with the new additional security element ~~{-blocking code,-}~~"blocking code", which comprises a coded blocking groove and an assigned pair of blocking tumbler pins, without any additional space requirement on the key and in the cylinder, i.e., with the existing coding positions on the key and the existing pin rows and ~~{-}~~positions in the cylinder, an additional insertion blocking system as well as a higher number of permutations and applications are achieved.

[0008] ~~{In the following, the invention is explained in more detail on the basis of examples of embodiments and Figures. These illustrate}~~

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] ~~[Fig. 1a Coding]~~ These and further features of the invention are apparent with reference to the following description and drawings, wherein:

[0010] Fig. 1a shows coding rows with coding positions for two bore patterns on one key₁;

[0011] Fig. 1b shows on a key a division into areas, with a first area with additional security elements₁;

[0012] Fig. 1c shows a further example of a division into areas₁;

[0013] Fig. 1d shows a segmentation of market areas and distributor areas on a key₁;

[0014] Fig. 1e shows a connection between division into areas and segmentation of market areas₁;

[0015] Fig. 2 shows the principle of the blocking code with blocking groove and blocking tumbler pin pair₁;

[0016] Fig. 3 shows examples of coding steps and blocking steps₁;

[0017] Fig. 4 shows examples of different tumbler pin shapes₁;

[0018] Fig. 5 shows blocking groove shapes corresponding to Fig. 4₁;

[0019] Fig. 6 shows coding shapes corresponding to Fig. 4₁;

[0020] Fig. 7 shows a blocking groove extending over four positions with differing sectors₁;

[0021] Fig. 8 shows, in a three-dimensional representation, a blocking groove with a blocking tumbler pin pair₁;

[0022] Fig. 9 shows, in a three-dimensional representation, different examples of blocking grooves with coding positions (corresponding to the example of Fig. 14)₁;

[0023] Fig. 10 shows a security element₁, ~~insertion block₁~~, "insertion block" by means of a control face and a control pin₁;

[0024] Fig. 11 shows a security element ~~[, flat pin,]~~ “flat pin” for the flank control of codings~~[,]~~;

[0025] Fig. 12 shows a key with four rows of tumbler pins and with blocking pins in the cylinder~~[,]~~;

[0026] Fig. 13 shows examples of keys with five and with eight coding ~~[, resp.,]~~ or tumbler pin rows~~[,]~~;

[0027] Fig. 14 shows a schematic locking function diagram with two bore patterns and two market areas~~[,]~~;

[0028] Fig. 15 shows a schematic locking function diagram with two positions and four market areas~~[,]~~;

[0029] Fig. 16 shows a schematic locking function diagram with two positions and one market area~~[,]~~;

[0030] Fig. 17 shows a schematic locking function diagram with one position each in two tumbler pin rows and with three market areas~~[,]~~;

[0031] Fig. 18 shows an organization diagram of a locking system with segmented market areas and applications; and,

[0032] Fig. 19 shows a schematic manufacturing diagram for keys of a locking system in accordance with the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0033] Fig. 1a, as an example, ~~[Fig. 1a as an example]~~ illustrates a safety turning-key S with four pin rows A1 to A4 and with 22 coding positions Pi, each one for a bore pattern left (L) and a bore pattern right (R). The coding row A2 on the key S here has the positions R1 to R5 for the bore pattern R and the positions L6 to L11 for ~~the~~ the bore pattern L. On the keys,

all positions of both bore patterns can be coded~~[, i.e.]~~. For example, there are keys with bore pattern left, keys with bore pattern right and also keys with the two bore patterns R + L. In the assigned cylinder Z, however, for reasons of space for the pins, only every second position and, with this, only either a bore pattern R or a bore pattern L can be equipped with tumbler pins (in the same area). The first coding position P1 (= L11) on the tip of the key here corresponds to the rearmost tumbler pin position P1 in the cylinder with respect to the direction of insertion \underline{x} of the key ~~[*]~~ S.

[0034] Fig. 1b illustrates the locking system in accordance with the invention on a key S, whereby on the key at least two areas are defined~~[,]~~ with a first area G1, in which at least two additional security elements with a higher degree of difficulty to manufacture are foreseen, and with a second area G2, in which a simple basic coding Cod1 is foreseen~~[, whereby with]~~. With the first area G1 an unequivocal segmentation into independent market areas $M_i = M_1, M_2, \text{etc.}$ is defined.

[0035] Also illustrated here are additional security elements, which in the following are more accurately defined: a blocking code BC, a second coding Cod2, preferably with a narrow milling, an insertion blocking system by means of a control face and control pin KF/KS and a flank control of Cod2 by means of a flat pin 23. The simple basic coding Cod1 is, ~~[e.g.]~~ for example, a coding by means of bores, which is relatively easily implementable anywhere decentralized.

[0036] Fig. 1c depicts a different division into areas, whereby the area G1 can be divided into several part areas G1.1, G1.2, etc. Depending on the application and on the desired system design, the area G1 ~~[e.g., can also]~~ can, for example, encompass a whole coding row A1. In doing so, also all security elements are affixed in this one coding row. In a different advantageous variant, ~~[e.g.]~~ for example, also parts of areas with positions at the very front of

the key of two coding rows (A1, A2) can form the area G1, whereby ~~[-e.g.-]~~ both parts of areas G1.1, G1.2 can each respectively have a blocking code BC.

[0037] Fig. 1d illustrates the division into several independent market areas $M_i = M_1, M_2$, etc., as well as the possible further sub-division of each market area into parts of market areas ~~[MMi, e.g., into]~~ Mmi, which are, for example, independent distributor areas or fields of application for installations and objects, etc. The market areas M_i are defined with the area G1. The parts of areas MMi can be defined with parts of the area G1 or also with parts of the area G2 or they can equally encompass parts of the areas G1 and G2.

[0038] Fig. 1e illustrates, for example, a connection between the areas G1, G2 on the key and the unequivocal separation in the market area M_i , parts of market areas MMi as well as the further subdivisions for objects MMi.i. This is further explained ~~[in the description of Figure]~~ hereinafter with reference to Fig. 18.

[0039] Advantageously, the area G1 contains at least three security elements V_i . Particularly important and advantageous is the new additional security element ~~[-Blocking Code-]~~ "Blocking Code". In the case of the blocking code BC, as an additional coding ~~[-]~~ and security function in accordance with the invention explained in Fig. 2, the coding position P1 and its function on the key S and in the cylinder Z are maintained.

[0040] Fig. 2 schematically illustrates the method of operation of the blocking code BC in accordance with the invention on a key S and in an assigned cylinder Z. The directions in space are in the following designated with x, y, z ~~[and x is the key-, resp., the cylinder axis. Located on-, resp., milled into the key is]~~, with x being the axis of the key and cylinder. The key has a blocking groove BN, which milled therein. The blocking groove BN runs parallel to the key axis x and ~~[which]~~ extends at least up to the first coding position P1. In the assigned cylinder, correspondingly at least at the rearmost coding position P1, a pair of

blocking ~~{pins-with}~~ tumbler pins is disposed. The blocking pins include a spring loaded blocking tumbler pin BZ and ~~{with}~~ an extended blocking counter pin BG ~~{is-foreseen}~~. The blocking groove has a coded blocking depth B1, B2, B3 and, in correspondence with this, the length lb of the pair of blocking tumbler pins (BZ + BG) is coded ~~{in}~~ such ~~{a-manner,}~~ that the length lb corresponds to the distance db of the blocking groove BN from the cylinder housing 10, ~~i.e., that~~. In other words, the pair of blocking tumbler pins (or pair of blocking pins) fits in the blocking groove BN with little play. When inserting the key, the following sequence results (a - b - c): The blocking tumbler pin BZ is lifted at a ~~{bevelled}~~ beveled lead-in face 6 of the key up to the level of the blocking groove BN and with little play with the cylinder housing 10 passes through the blocking groove up to the corresponding coding position P1, whereby the blocking tumbler pin BZ is lowered into this first coding position with a certain coding step, here, e.g., C2. In this position P1 the pair of blocking tumbler pins BZ, BG operates as normal coding position with respect to turning of the cylinder, which in case of a correct coding has to release the shear line 9. If the blocking groove BN is not deep enough, ~~{resp., if}~~ such as when it has a wrong coding Bi, then the blocking counter pin BG impinges on the cylinder housing 10 and the further insertion of the key is blocked at the ~~{bevelled}~~ beveled lead-in face (if lb is larger than db, refer to Fig. 8a). The blocking code therefore results in an additional security function, in that the complete insertion can be prevented with additional coding steps (Bi) of the blocking groove, whereby the coding function up until now at the position P1 is maintained. Over and above this, neither ~~{on}~~ the key, (i.e., on the key positions~~{,}~~) nor ~~{in}~~ the cylinder ~~{an}~~ requires additional space for the blocking code ~~{is-required}~~. In the cylinder simply an up until now the normal coding tumbler pin is replaced by the special blocking tumbler pin.

[0041] Fig. 3 illustrates possible blocking steps Bi with a depth tb in comparison with the coding steps Ci with the coding depths tc relative to the key surface. In the following examples, here coding steps C1 to C4 (e.g., steps of 0.35 mm) as well as three blocking steps B1, B2, B3 with blocking depths of, e.g., 1.05, 0.55 and 0 mm are utilized, whereby a blocking step B3 with a depth of 0 mm cannot exert a blocking function anymore. The blocking depths Bi can also correspond to the coding depths Ci, therefore, e.g., C1 to C4 and B1 to B4. In a further example, five coding steps C1 to C5 are represented in combination with four blocking steps B1 to B4, e.g., with step distances of 0.3 mm of the Ci and of 0.4 mm of the Bi. In accordance with the combination rule for the blocking steps Bi with the coding steps Ci, the coding depth tc of the coding steps Ci must not be smaller than the blocking depth tb of the preceding blocking groove Bi. In this example, therefore the blocking step B3 can be combined with the subsequent coding steps C3, C2 or C1.

[0042] [The] Figs. 4, 5 and 6 illustrate various possible tumbler pin shapes (Figs. 4a, b, c), assigned forms of the blocking grooves BN (Figs. 5a, b, c) as well as the coding shapes assigned to the tumbler pins (Figs. 6a, b, c). Fig. 4a illustrates a conventional conical tumbler pin shape 21, ~~[e.g.]~~ such as for a basic coding Cod1, which can be manufactured by means of simple bores (Fig. 6a). Fig. 4b depicts a narrow, cylindrical tumbler pin shape 22 with correspondingly narrow coding grooves (Fig. 6b), the manufacturing of which ~~[e.g.]~~ calls for a difficult to copy, elaborate milling process and which, ~~[e.g.]~~ for example, can be utilized as a second coding Cod2. Fig. 4c illustrates a flat pin 23, which, e.g., can be utilized for the flank control of a narrow milled coding (Fig. 6b), as will be explained in more detail later on. Further tumbler pin shapes are possible and known, which in principle are a combination of cylindrical and conical sections. The blocking groove shapes and the coding shapes can be

implemented differently and as a result make any copying more difficult and also have the effect of additionally obscuring the coding shapes.

[0043] The Figs. 7a, b, c illustrate an example of a blocking groove, which extends over the four most forward coding positions $P_i = L11, R5, L10$ and $R4$ of two bore patterns R, L and which correspondingly have several differently coded sectors $BN1$ to $BN4$. In doing so, as a rule attention must be paid, that the depth tb of the blocking grooves remains the same from one position to the next position or else becomes smaller (i.e., cannot become bigger) and that equally the width bb of the blocking grooves remains the same from one position to the next one or else becomes smaller. This in conjunction with three blocking steps $B1$ to $B3$ and with two blocking groove widths $bb1$ and $bb2$ results in the illustrated blocking steps B_i , bb_i of the four blocking groove sectors $BN1$ to $BN4$.

[0044] Fig. 8 illustrates the function of the blocking code in a three-dimensional depiction and Fig. 9 blocking groove shapes and the adjacent coding indentations, which correspond to the example of Fig. 14. In Figs. 8a, b a key $S1a$ is illustrated, with a blocking groove, which has a blocking step $B2$ and with adjacent coding positions $L11$ and $R5$, which have the codings $C1$ and $C2$ (corresponding to the key $S1a$ of Fig. 14).

[0045] Fig. 8a illustrates a pair of blocking tumbler pins BZ, BG with blocking code $B1$, the length lb of which is greater than the distance db of the blocking groove from the cylinder housing 10. With this, the complete insertion of the key $S1a$ into this cylinder is blocked. Fig. 8b in contrast illustrates a pair of blocking tumbler pins BZ, BG with a blocking code $B2$, which corresponds to the blocking code $B2$ of the blocking groove BN and which, therefore, can be completely inserted. This in the schematic diagram of Fig. 14 corresponds to the key $S1a$, which opens the cylinder $Z1$ (with coding $C1$ at the position $R5$).

[0046] The Figs. 9a to 9d illustrate the keys S1, S2, S3 and S1a, with differently coded blocking grooves and positions L11 and R5. This also corresponds to the schematic locking function diagram of Fig. 14, which indicates, which key - cylinder combinations open and which ones block.

[0047] Fig. 10 as possible additional security element illustrates an as such known insertion blocking system by means of a control face KF at the tip of the key and an assigned control pin KS in the cylinder. This control face KF extends beyond the central bisecting plane 5 of the key, the same as the control pin KS, which impinges on the rising control face KF and has to be pushed out of the way by it in order for the key to be able to be inserted. A key without the right control face, resp., with only normal lead-in faces 6, with its tip encounters this control pin KS, so that the latter prevents the insertion of the key. This is a completely different arrangement and action than according to the blocking code in accordance with the invention, which does not require any special control faces, but works rather more with any existing key lead-in face 6. Advantageously, however, the new blocking code with the blocking tumbler pins BZ can be combined with this known insertion block by means of control faces KF and control pin KS and in particular even be assigned in the same tumbler pin row (e.g., A2), whereby the control pin KS is positioned anywhere in front of the pair of blocking tumbler pins BZ, BG in the cylinder.

[0048] A further important additional security element, which can also be assigned in the same tumbler pin row, is illustrated in Figs. 11a, 11b. These illustrate a flank control at a narrow coding milling Cod2, which is implemented by a flat tumbler pin 23. The flat tumbler pin 23 (refer to, e.g., Fig. 4c) has a diameter d2, which is greater than the width d1 of the coding milling, so that the flat tumbler pin lies on the key surface 7, as is depicted in Fig. 11a. In contrast, in the case of a basic coding Cod1, e.g., in accordance with Fig. 6a, with

necessarily wide bores d3 the flat tumbler pin 23 will sink into these indentations in accordance with Fig. 11b, whereby the shear line 9 of the cylinder is blocked. With this, e.g., a simple forged bore instead of the authorized, much more elaborate narrow coding milling Cod2 can be detected and the functioning of a key forged in this manner be prevented.

[0049] Advantageously therefore in a tight space and in a single tumbler pin row the following very effective security elements can be combined: in addition to the blocking code BC in accordance with the invention, a second coding Cod2 with a narrow milling, an insertion control by means of control pin KS and control face KF as well as a flank control of the narrow coding Cod2 by means of a flat tumbler pin 23.

[0050] Fig. 12 illustrates a cross section through a safety turning-key with four rows of tumbler pins A1 to A4 in a cylinder in accordance with the example of Fig. 1. The row A1 here is implemented with a narrow coding milling Cod2 and with a pair of blocking tumbler pins BZ, BG. The rows A3 and A4 (and optionally also the row A2) here are implemented with a ~~more simple~~ simpler basic coding Cod1. Important is to exploit the given key surface and the space inside the cylinder in the best possible way for coding positions and security elements. To achieve this, of necessity (at least two) rows of tumbler pins also have to be located on the flat sides of the key.

[0051] In the case of somewhat bigger keys, it is also possible to foresee more than four rows of tumbler pins.

[0052] Fig. 13a for this purpose illustrates an example with five rows of tumbler pins A1 to A5 and Fig. 13b an example with eight rows of tumbler pins A1 to A8, which, however, can only be equipped with tumbler pins in the cylinder to such an extent as space is available. Thanks to the utilization of narrow codings, however, it is also possible to code all eight rows on the key here. This results in a great number of possible permutations as well as in further

security reserves. In principle, here too at the beginning of every row of tumbler pins A_i , a blocking coding can be ~~foreseen~~ provided.

[0053] In the Figs. 14 to 17, schematic locking function diagrams with different combinations of blocking codes B_i and codings C_i of the adjacent positions P_i are illustrated. In the left-hand column, the codings B_i , C_i of the keys S_i are indicated and in the row on top the codings of the cylinders Z_i . The keys can have the bore patterns R or L, or R + L (both), while the cylinders can only contain one bore pattern R or L. The schematic diagram indicates with an "X", whether a combination key / cylinder fits, i.e., whether the key opens the corresponding cylinder. All other combinations block. The Figs. 14 to 17 illustrate ~~with~~ how, with few blocking codings B_i and adjacent position codings C_i , different market areas M_i can be unequivocally differentiated between, and how within a market area several derivations, i.e., hierarchic differentiations, of keys can be implemented within an installation.

[0054] The schematic diagram of Fig. 14 (which corresponds to the Figs. 8 and 9) illustrates codings C_i with two bore patterns and with two positions

[0055] $P_1=L11$ and $P_2=R5$ with 5 equipping alternatives with blocking steps $B_i = B_1, B_2, B_3$ of the blocking grooves and coding steps $C_i = C_1$ and C_2 .

[0056] Defined with this are two independent market areas M_1, M_2 With three, resp., two derivations. ~~The~~ The key S_3 , e.g., opens the cylinders Z_1 and Z_3 .

[0057] Fig. 15 illustrates only one bore pattern L with blocking code over two positions $P_1 = L11$ and $P_2=L10$ with blocking steps B_1, B_2, B_3 and with coding steps C_1, C_2 .

[0058] Defined with this are four independent market areas M_1 to M_4 , each ~~Each~~ with three derivations.

[0059] ~~The~~ For example, the key $S11abc$ opens ~~the~~ the cylinders $Z11a, Z11b, Z11c$.

[0060] Fig. 16 illustrates a bore pattern L with two positions $\{P1 = L11 \text{ and } P2 = L10\}$ with blocking code B1, B2, B3 and coding steps $L11 = C1 \text{ and } L10 = C1$, whereby with the blocking steps within a market area five derivations are created. For example, the $\{H-e\}$ key S11abcde opens the five cylinders Z11a to Z11e and the key $\{S-H-a\}$ S11a only opens the cylinder Z11a.

[0061] Fig. 17 illustrates an example with only one position P1 each, however, in two rows of tumbler pins A1, A2. Both positions P1 are coded with C1, while with the blocking steps B1, B2, B3 of the blocking grooves three independent market areas M1, M2 and M3 are defined.

[0062] The key S1 only opens the cylinder Z1, S2 only opens Z2, and S3 only opens Z3.

[0063] Fig. 18 illustrates an organization of the locking system in accordance with the invention with security reversible keys in a hierarchic schematic diagram. The system owner SS (e.g., a manufacturing company) represents the highest hierarchic level, which defines and authorizes the market areas $M_i = M1, M2, \text{ etc.}$, whereby a market area $\{e.g., \text{can}\}$ may be a country or a general distributor. In the market areas, further parts of areas M_{mi} are defined and separated $\{e.g.\}$ and may be, for example, for different distributors or installations within this area. A further level $\{M_{mid}, e.g.\}$ $M_{mi.i}$ can define individual objects. This is defined by the codings of the areas G1 and G2.

[0064] Fig. 19 schematically illustrates a manufacturing method for keys of a system in accordance with the invention with manufacturing steps H, areas G on the key and with the manufactured variables V_i in the areas G. On principle the manufacturing H with reducing degree of difficulty HS takes place on lower levels, respectively, decentralized.

[0065] The variables V_i and security elements manufactured in the various areas G_i and in the corresponding manufacturing steps H_i , for example, are also indicated in the table.

[0066] With the manufacturing of keys and cylinders of a locking system with at least two areas G1 G2 on the keys, first the first area on the keys is manufactured~~[resp.]~~ (controlled and authorized) at a central place of manufacture H1 and the coding Cod1 of the keys of the second area G2 and the equipping of the cylinders with corresponding pins can subsequently take place at a local representative: H2.

[0067] The manufacturing can take place in at least two steps~~[resp.]~~ in different places, whereby first variables with a higher degree of difficulty HS of the area G1 are manufactured in a central location and subsequently variables with a lower degree of difficulty of the area G2 are manufactured decentralized or locally.

[0068] The manufacturing of the keys can also take place in three steps, whereby first the first area G1 with variables Vi of the highest degree of difficulty is manufactured centrally : H1; thereupon a further area G1/2 with variables with a lower degree of difficulty is manufactured regionally : H1/2 and finally the coding G2 with the lowest degree of difficulty of the area G2 is manufactured locally at the place of use H2.

[0069] In a further development of the system, the manufacturing of the area G1 can also take place decentralized. To implement this, manufacturing programs and the authorization~~[aut:]~~ "aut" can be controlled and checked from the central location SS (system owner).

[0070] With the system in accordance with the invention and the manufacturing methods a universal differentiation of market areas and parts of market areas as well as a rapid local manufacturing are made possible.

[0071] Within the framework of this description, the following designations are used:

[0072] x, y, z Directions in space

[0073] x Key axis

[0074]	S, Si	Key
[0075]	Z, Zi	Cylinder
[0076]	Pi	Coding positions
[0077]	R, L	Right-hand -, left-hand bore pattern
[0078]	Ri, Li	Right-hand -, left-hand coding positions
[0079]	Ai	Coding rows, pin rows
[0080]	Bi	Coded blocking steps
[0081]	Ci	Coding steps
[0082]	BC	Blocking code
[0083]	BN	Blocking groove
[0084]	BZ	Blocking tumbler pin
[0085]	BG	Blocking counter pin
[0086]	BZ + BG	Pair of blocking tumbler pins, pair of blocking pins
[0087]	1b	Length of BZ + BG
[0088]	db	Distance from BN to 10
[0089]	tb	Depth of BN
[0090]	bb	Width of BN
[0091]	tc	Depth of the coding steps Ci
[0092]	d1, d2, d3	Diameters
[0093]	Cod1	Basic coding
[0094]	Cod2	Second (different) coding
[0095]	KF	Control face
[0096]	KS	Control pin
[0097]	Mi	Market areas

[0098]	MMi	Parts of market areas
[0099]	SS	System owner
[00100]	aut	Authorization
[00101]	H1, H2	Manufacturing steps
[00102]	HS	Degree of manufacturing difficulty
[00103]	G1, G2	Areas on S
[00104]	Vi	Variables, security elements
[00105]	5	Central bisecting plane of S
[00106]	6	{Bevelled} Beveled tip of S, lead-in face of S
[00107]	7	Surface of S
[00108]	9	Shear line in Z
[00109]	10	Cylinder housing
[00110]	11, 12	Supporting surfaces at tumbler pins
[00111]	15	{Bevelled} Beveled face at tumbler pins
[00112]	21 - 23	Various shapes of tumbler pins
[00113]	23	Flat pin